

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 98,506-C)

#12/11 B
1/27/01

In the Application of:)	
)	
Frace et al.)	Examiner: Unknown
)	
Serial No. Not Assigned)	Group Art Unit: Unknown
)	
Filed: November 4, 1999)	
)	
Title: Preparation and Use of Recombinant)	
Influenza A Virus M2 Constructs And)	
Vaccines)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

7. (Amended) The modified M2 polypeptide of Claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 6], wherein the deleted amino acid residues are replaced one or more neutral or hydrophilic amino acid residues, provided that the total number of amino acid residues in the modified M2 polypeptide is less than or equal to the number in the native M2 polypeptide.

12. (Amended) The modified M2 polypeptide of Claim 9 [any one of claims 9 to 11], wherein the native M2 protein is form the A/Aichi/2/68 (H3N2) virus.

13. (Amended) A modified M2 polypeptide fusion protein comprising a modified M2 polypeptide fusion protein according to Claim 1 [and one of claims 1 to 6].

16. (Amended) A modified M2 polypeptide fusion protein comprising a modified M2 polypeptide fusion protein according to Claim 9 [and one of claims 9-11].